

WASHINGTON, D.C. - R. Scott Kennedy, former mayor of Santa Cruz and co-founder of the city's Resource Center for Nonviolence, was presented with the 2008 El-Hibri Peace Education Prize. This prize, including a check for \$10,000, is a joint effort between Nonviolence International, American University and the El-Hibri family.

Nancy El-Hibri presented Kennedy the prize honoring his service as a "peace educator and activist of extraordinary impact." The award presentation ceremony highlighted his central role in "establishing and promoting the now cottage industry of educational delegations for peace to Central America and the Middle East."

Congressman Sam Farr (D-Carmel), entered a congratulatory statement in the Congressional Record paying tribute to Kennedy.

"It is with great pleasure that I call attention to Dr. Scott Kennedy's work to bring peace to the world over the course of his lifetime," Rep. Farr wrote. "He has been a Peace Educator for 40 years and was instrumental in pioneering educational delegations to conflict zones, now a widely practiced form of peace education."

During the October 4 award ceremony, Kennedy remarked, "Peace education in the classroom is valuable, yet needs to be complemented with pragmatic, hands-on efforts in our communities to make peace and justice a living reality." He expressed deep appreciation for the many colleagues at the Resource Center for Nonviolence as well as the citizens of Santa Cruz for their tremendous support and inspiration.

Mr. Fuad El-Hibri, who established the El-Hibri Peace Education Prize, noted that he and the El-Hibri Charitable Foundation will continue to support the prize and its growth each year in an effort to highlight the importance of peace education, and to support people who are working for a just, peaceful and healthy planet.

Kennedy is co-founder of Witness for Peace, the Resource Center for Nonviolence and Interfaith Peacebuilders, which has sent educational around the world to countries whose people suffer from conflict, lack of educational opportunities and social injustice.

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